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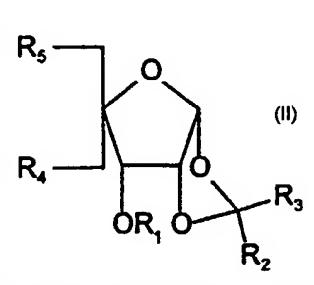
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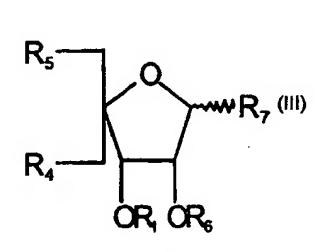
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(54) Title: IMPROVED SYNTHESIS OF [2.2.1]BICYCLO NUCLEOSIDES



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(57) Abstract: A synthesis of [2.2.1] bicyclo nucleosides which is shorter and provides higher overall yields proceeds via the key intermediate of general formula (III), wherein R_4 and R_5 are, for instance, sulfonates and R_7 is, for instance, a halogen or an acetate. From compounds in general formula (II), such as 3-O-aryl-4-C-hydroxymethyl-1,2-O-isopropylidene- α -D-ribofuranose, intermediates of general formula (III) are suitable for coupling with silylated nucleobases. Upon one-pot base-induced ring-closure and desul-

fonation of the formed [2.2.1] bicyclo nucleoside, a short route to each the LNA (Locked Nucleic Acid) derivatives of adenosine, cytosine, uridine, thymidine and guanidine is demonstrated. The use of the 5'-sulfonated ring-closed intermediate also allows for synthesis of 5'-amino- and thio-LNAs.